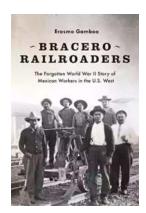
## The Forgotten World War II Story Of Mexican Workers In The West



World War II has been widely documented, but there are certain stories that have been overlooked throughout history. One such story is that of Mexican workers and their significant contributions to the war efforts in the western part of the United States. This article aims to shed light on the forgotten heroes who played a crucial role in supporting the war machine.

As the war intensified, the United States faced a labor shortage. Many Americans were enlisted in the military, leaving essential industries without enough manpower to sustain production. The solution? A labor agreement between the

U.S. and Mexico, known as the Bracero Program, which allowed Mexican workers to temporarily migrate to the U.S. and fill the vacant positions.



## Bracero Railroaders: The Forgotten World War II Story of Mexican Workers in the U.S. West

by Erasmo Gamboa(Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 4.8 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 5801 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 242 pages

Screen Reader



: Supported

The Bracero Program was not without its challenges. Workers faced discrimination, low wages, and poor living conditions. They endured long hours and often performed dangerous tasks, all while being deprived of the same rights and benefits as their American counterparts. Despite these hardships, Mexican workers persevered, driven by the necessity to support their families and contribute to the war efforts.

In the western states, Mexican workers were involved in various industries critical to the war. They worked in agriculture, helping to maintain food production to feed both soldiers and civilians. They labored in mines, extracting valuable resources needed for weapons and war machinery. The construction industry also heavily relied on Mexican workers to build military camps and bases.

One of the most remarkable aspects of the Mexican workers' contribution was their dedication to their tasks. They often exceeded expectations and demonstrated remarkable work ethic. Their efforts were highly valued, and many of them were praised for their commitment and efficiency.

Despite their immense contributions, the story of Mexican workers during World War II remains largely untold. Their dedication and sacrifices have often gone unnoticed, overshadowed by more prominent narratives. But it is crucial to acknowledge their bravery and the vital role they played in the western part of the United States.

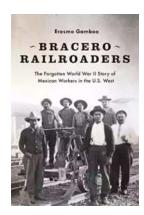
It is through shedding light on forgotten stories like this that we can gain a deeper understanding of historical events and appreciate the diverse contributions that different communities made during times of crisis. The bravery and resilience of Mexican workers during World War II deserve recognition and remembrance, ensuring their place in history alongside other heroes who fought for freedom and justice.

As we remember and honor the sacrifices made during World War II, let us not forget the Mexican workers who played an integral part in supporting the war efforts in the western part of the United States. Their contribution and resilience in the face of adversity serves as an inspiration to all, reminding us of the unwavering spirit of humanity even in the darkest times.

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Desperate for laborers to keep the trains moving during World War II, the U.S. and Mexican governments created a now mostly forgotten bracero railroad program that sent a hundred thousand Mexican workers across the border to build and maintain railroad lines throughout the United States, particularly the West. Although both governments promised the workers adequate living arrangements and fair working conditions, most bracero railroaders lived in squalor, worked dangerous jobs, and were subject to harsh racial discrimination.

Making matters worse, the governments held a percentage of the workers' earnings in a savings and retirement program that supposedly would await the men on their return to Mexico. However, rampant corruption within both the railroad companies and the Mexican banks meant that most workers were unable to collect what was rightfully theirs.

Historian Erasmo Gamboa recounts the difficult conditions, systemic racism, and decades-long quest for justice these men faced. The result is a pathbreaking examination that deepens our understanding of Mexican American, immigration, and labor histories in the twentieth-century U.S. West.



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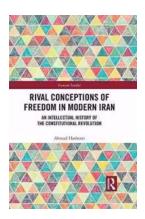
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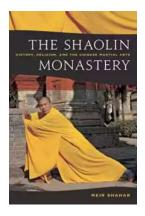
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